

of technologies to deal with that by producing low-carbon and no-carbon electricity; and, finally, a realism about the base load that we need to encourage in this country to produce that kind of electricity, aggressive conservation, new supplies of natural gas, relaunching nuclear power, coal gasification, and carbon sequestration.

I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

GENERAL LOUIS H. WILSON, JR.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, this morning the Washington Post carries an article about the death of GEN Louis Wilson who was a former Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. He died on June 21 at his home in Birmingham, AL. He was a native of my State of Mississippi and was a personal friend and a great soldier and a wonderful Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. He and his wife Jane lived here in Washington in the Marine barracks, the Commandant's residence, and befriended my wife Rose and me when I was a young Member of Congress before I was elected to the Senate. He was serving as Commandant of the Marine Corps.

We enjoyed many opportunities to visit with them when they were resident in Washington. He was a very distinguished officer in the Marine Corps during World War II. He was given the congressional Medal of Honor for gallantry during his service in the battle in Guam on Fonte Hill. The description of his exploits and gallantry are contained in the citation that was issued when he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The article talks about his career in glowing terms, a well-earned tribute for a courageous and brave soldier, and the first Marine Corps Commandant to serve as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He established a tradition when he was selected to serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff which is carried on today. It was because of his strong leadership and his example that there is no question that a good decision was made to include in the Joint Chiefs of Staff the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

We mourn his passing, but we rejoice in the great life he lived and the inspiration that his career provided to marines in all of the succeeding generations of service in the U.S. Marine Corps.

I ask unanimous consent that the article in today's Washington Post and a copy of the citation for Louis Hugh Wilson, Jr., upon his being awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Jun. 24, 2005]
GEN. LOUIS WILSON DIES; AWARDED MEDAL OF HONOR

(By Adam Bernstein)

Gen. Louis H. Wilson Jr., 85, who received the Medal of Honor for taking and holding a key position on Guam during World War II and later served as commandant of the Marine Corps, died June 21 at his home in Birmingham. He had a degenerative nerve disorder.

On July 1, 1975, Gen. Wilson became the 26th commandant of the Marine Corps. He was the first commandant to serve full time on the Joint Chiefs of Staff, providing the corps with a greater say on defense matters.

During his four-year tenure, he was credited with shaping a post-Vietnam corps of strong expeditionary units ready for "high mobility and high-intensity combat." He made personnel changes to raise morale and address disciplinary problems.

He increased academic enlistment standards (he wanted 75 percent of recruits to have high school diplomas); ordered the discharge of thousands of Marines with discipline problems; and offered tougher directives on weight requirements. "Obesity must vanish," he said and set for himself a daily jogging regimen.

As commandant, he had a reputation for being blunt, thoughtful and refreshing. He publicly acknowledged the brutal treatment of recruits by some drill instructors and tried to change the policies that granted drill instructors "too much autonomy."

In 1975, he told an interviewer that the Vietnam War had been fought in vain from a military viewpoint.

He also castigated draft laws that "had been gerrymandered so that only the poor, the blacks and disadvantaged were really drafted. A great many fine young men came in. But many draftees, thrown in with them, were the dregs of society [and] many with continuing dissatisfaction with the war."

"It's not like the old days," he added, "when you could leave your wallet on your sack."

The Mississippi native was an effective witness on Capitol Hill, prepared and authoritative in his bearing. Earlier, he had been a corps liaison to Congress. He was a favorite of Sen. John C. Stennis (D-Miss.), head of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who became his advocate for full membership on the Joint Chiefs of Staff in October 1978.

Previously, Marine Corp commandants attended meetings of the Joint Chiefs only when there was business of pressing concern to the corps.

Louis Hugh Wilson Jr. was born Feb. 11, 1920, in Brandon, Miss. His father was a farmer who died when Louis was 5. He was raised by his mother, and her large, extended family helped them through the Depression.

As a young man, he sold vegetables from a goat cart. He later studied economics at Millsaps College in Jackson, Miss., where he played football and was on the track team. A Marine Corps recruiter who came to campus persuaded him to enter the service after his graduation in 1941.

He landed at Guadalcanal, Efate and Bougainville and received the Medal of Honor, the military's highest award for valor, while fighting Japanese forces at Fonte Hill, Guam, on July 25 and 26, 1944. At the time, he was a captain and the commanding officer of a rifle company.

Launching a daylight attack against massive machine gun resistance, he pushed his men 300 yards across open terrain and captured a portion of a hill that contained the enemy command post. That night, he took command of other disorganized units and motorized equipment and fortified defenses while risking exposure to enemy fire.

Wounded three times within five hours, he briefly sought treatment before volunteering to return to duty to defend against counterattacks that lasted through the night.

At one point, he dashed 50 yards through flying shrapnel and bullets to rescue a wounded Marine beyond the front lines. That was followed by hand-to-hand fighting over a 10-hour span, repelling Japanese troops that sought to overrun the Allied lines through 11 full-fledged attacks.

His Medal of Honor citation continued: "Then organizing a 17-man patrol, he immediately advanced upon a strategic slope essential to the security of his position and, boldly defying intense mortar, machinegun, and rifle fire which struck down 13 of his men, drove relentlessly forward with the remnants of his patrol to seize the vital ground."

He was credited with a pivotal role in the victory, which included the deaths of 350 Japanese troops. President Harry S. Truman presented him with the Medal of Honor on Oct. 5, 1945.

After the war, he held recruiting and command assignments, graduated from the National War College and served as assistant chief of staff to the 1st Marine Division in Vietnam during the war there.

He was promoted to brigadier general in 1966 and, after being appointed lieutenant general in 1972, assumed command of the Marine force in the Pacific. His decorations included three awards of the Legion of Merit.

After retiring from the military in 1979, he served on the corporate boards of such businesses as Merrill Lynch, the financial services company, and Fluor Corp., an engineering and construction company.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Jane Clark Wilson, and a daughter, Janet Taylor, both of Birmingham; and two grandsons.

WILSON, LOUIS HUGH, JR.

Rank and organization: Captain, U.S. Marine Corps, Commanding Rifle Company, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, 3d Marine Division. Place and date: Fonte Hill, Guam, 25-26 July 1944. Entered service at: Mississippi. Born: 11 February 1920, Brandon, Miss. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as commanding officer of a rifle company attached to the 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, 3d Marine Division, in action against enemy Japanese forces at Fonte Hill, Guam, 25-26 July 1944. Ordered to take that portion of the hill within his zone of action, Capt. Wilson initiated his attack in mid-afternoon, pushed up the rugged, open terrain against terrific machinegun and rifle fire for 300 yards and successfully captured the objective. Promptly assuming command of other disorganized units and motorized equipment in addition to his own company and reinforcing platoon, he organized his night defenses in the face of continuous hostile fire and, although wounded 3 times during this 5-hour period, completed his disposition of men and guns before retiring to the company command post for medical attention. Shortly thereafter, when the enemy launched the first of a series of savage counterattacks lasting all night, he voluntarily rejoined his besieged units and repeatedly exposed himself to the merciless hail of shrapnel and bullets, dashing 50 yards into the open on 1 occasion to rescue a wounded marine lying helpless beyond the frontlines. Fighting fiercely in hand-to-hand encounters, he led his men in furiously waged battle for approximately 10 hours, tenaciously holding his line and repelling the fanatically renewed counterthrusts until he succeeded in crushing the last efforts of the hard-pressed Japanese early the following morning. Then

organizing a 17-man patrol, he immediately advanced upon a strategic slope essential to the security of his position and, boldly defying intense mortar, machinegun, and rifle fire which struck down 13 of his men, drove relentlessly forward with the remnants of his patrol to seize the vital ground. By his indomitable leadership, daring combat tactics, and valor in the face of overwhelming odds, Capt. Wilson succeeded in capturing and holding the strategic high ground in his regimental sector, thereby contributing essentially to the success of his regimental mission and to the annihilation of 350 Japanese troops. His inspiring conduct throughout the critical periods of this decisive action sustains and enhances the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

Mr. COCHRAN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as we bring this week to a close and look back, I am pleased with the progress that has been made on the Energy bill which we have completed, in essence, except for final passage which we will do Tuesday. Then we are ahead of what I initially anticipated, having proceeded to our first appropriations bill, the Interior appropriations.

The bill, as has been mentioned, is an excellent bill. I congratulate both the leaders on that bill, the chairman and the ranking member on the Interior Subcommittee, for their superb shepherding of this bill through their subcommittee, and now bringing it to the floor. I also thank the committee for reporting a bill that keeps to the spending allocation under this year's budget resolution.

As we travel back home, and as we will see when we go back during the Fourth of July recess, the American people expect us to adhere to that budget, a very strict spending budget, a budget on which Chairman GREGG led, and we passed, the fastest budget we have ever passed but, more important than that, a budget that shows fiscal discipline. Indeed, the ranking member and chairman of the subcommittee adhered to that allocation throughout. Senators BURNS and DORGAN have worked hard to be responsible stewards of American taxpayer dollars. At the same time it is reflected in the bill the importance of being stewards of the natural wonders and the heritage and the beauty of our great country. I thank Senator BURNS and Senator DORGAN for their hard work.

It is our first bill as we approach the appropriations process. It is the first of 12 newly constituted appropriations bills that we will consider. It is my hope to see all 12 of these bills passed. We need to do our very best to avoid

the scenario that has unfolded all too often in recent years. Come November or December, we should not have to resort to an omnibus bill that lumps all of these individual bills that we wouldn't have been able to pass into a single bill. We are going to do everything possible to systematically address each one of these bills as they come along, and then be able to pass them to avoid coming to what has almost become customary, and that is an omnibus process.

It has been a decade, 10 years, not since 1995, since all appropriations bills were wrapped up before beginning the fiscal year. Over that last decade, the average was sending only 2.1 appropriations bills to the President for his signature before the beginning of the fiscal year, only 2. Actually it was 2.1, as I mentioned, appropriations bills.

We need to do better. We can do better, and we will do better. We need to get the job done—get every bill done right and done on time. I am very optimistic we can do that. This year, we passed the budget, as I mentioned, in the fastest time in history. That budget establishes an overall 2006 spending ceiling for all appropriations bills. And because of that ceiling, because of all of us working together, and by working together, I am hopeful that the process will proceed smoothly. We have initiated that process today with the Interior Appropriations bill. As we considered the bill before us today, I want to leave with a special place I think of when I contemplate what my vote on this bill means for America.

On a second issue, as we look to the appropriations bill that is likely and almost certain to follow the Interior Appropriations bill, I want to comment very briefly and introduce what we will see at the end of next week, and that is a comment on homeland security.

As September 11 so tragically demonstrated, protecting our borders—whether by air, by sea, or by land—has taken on a level of urgency and importance as never before. When you are talking to people at home, it arises again and again—it is almost the first, second, or third question at every town meeting we hold—border security.

Border security is no longer just an immigration issue or a customs issue. Border security must be a unified and coordinated strategy to thwart terrorism, which is something we didn't think about prior to September 11 nearly as much as we do today—thwarting terrorism and enforcing the laws.

Next week, we will debate the Homeland Security Appropriations bill, and we must include the necessary resources to meet these challenges.

This bill will address concerns regarding insecurity of our borders, which we know in fact does threaten national security. It is time to address that issue. We will again do that next week.

As we all know, each year thousands of people cross our borders illegally.

The vast majority seek little more than better lives for their families, which we understand. But some do bring drugs. Some do traffic in human beings. Some may even have ties to terrorist groups. We don't know exactly how many come or will come. We don't know exactly what their backgrounds are. We don't know who might harm us. In today's time, that is wrong.

We know one thing: If drug dealers and human traffickers can operate on our borders, terrorists can as well. Our national security requires a safer and more secure border, and it is up to us to deliver that.

We face a crisis. Over 7,000 miles of land stretch across our borders. If you look at our ports, they handle as many as 16 million cargo containers; and 330 million noncitizens—students, visitors, and workers—cross our borders each year; 330 million noncitizens go back and forth across the borders. An unprecedented flow of illegal immigrants, criminals, terrorists, and unsecured cargo crosses our borders.

As representatives of the people, we need to focus on the rule of law. We will be focusing on that rule of law. This Nation is founded on the concept that all men are created equal and all have the inalienable right to be free. But those freedoms are protected by our institutions and these institutions require respect for the rule of law.

Those illegal immigrants who may wish us no harm have still violated our rule of law. We must remember this as this debate unfolds on border security next week.

Finally, America has always opened our doors to immigrants. We must continue to do so and we will continue to do so. People come to America looking for a better life, and we live better lives because of them. They contribute to our economy. They help weave that rich cultural fabric that makes up our society. But we must ensure that immigrants who come to America come here legally.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana is recognized.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for such time as I may consume.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senator is recognized.

MONTANA'S ROCKY MOUNTAIN FRONT

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise to address an amendment that is very important to me and my State relating to Montana's magnificent Rocky Mountain front. I filed the amendment to the Energy bill and, even though we are not on the bill at the moment, I will talk about the amendment. I will speak about what it would have accomplished because I will not press for action on this amendment. Rather, I will offer it at a later time.

So what is the front? The front, as we call it back home, is one of the largest